# Soundings

News and Information from
The Northwest Washington Synod

**Volume 19, Number 9** **October 2002**


## *A Word From The Bishop, Wm Chris Boerger*

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## On Behalf Of The Synod

I distinctly remember one of the questions that was asked of the nominees for bishop at our 2001 Synod Assembly. It had to do with travel outside of the Synod and the priority of that travel. My read of the question was that the author viewed travel as a distraction for the bishop and the work of the Synod. I have spent the first year in this office with that question ringing in my ears.

On Sept. 17, I begin an odyssey of travel on behalf of the Synod. I will be attending the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS) in Berkeley. The seminary invited the 11 bishops in the western region of the United States to present their views of the "missional needs" of the church in the 21st century. These are to be taped and will be used in the design of future class offerings at the seminary.

I return from PLTS and join a delegation from this Synod to our companion synod in Russia. Bishop Springer has invited us to visit their convention and to discuss partnerships with our Russian colleagues. Rev. Wes Howell, Grace in Bellevue, and I will be going to St.

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*Continued from page 1--A Word from the Bishop*

# On Behalf Of The Synod

Petersburg to meet with Archbishop Kretschmar. We will also be visiting the seminary in St. Petersburg. Others in the delegation will be going to visit their companion congregations after the convention.

I return early to the United States for a Conference of Bishops meeting and Churchwide Consultation in Chicago in early October. This annual meeting of the ELCA Bishops will also include all of the Synod Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and the Assistants to the Bishops (for those synods with multiple Assistants, only two will be attending).

This takes me back to the question about travel. I remember answering the question with the comment that the vast majority of my time would be spent in the Synod. I now know that the commitments to the Conference of Bishops, PLTS board, Lutheran Association of Maritime Ministries (LAMM) Board and the ELCA Multi-Cultural Commission Board could mean that I am out of the Synod 49 days each year. I will miss the LAMM and Multi-Cultural Commission meetings this fall, but will be attending those in the future.

**"I am learning that it also involves some intentional time outside the Synod...I carry your fingerprints as I represent you..."**

I keep saying that one of the jobs of the bishop is to remind the church that God's church is larger than we think. I still see my primary role, which takes the vast majority of my time, to be in the Synod. Appropriately, I am learning that it also involves some intentional time outside the Synod to become aware of and to participate in the work of this larger church. I carry your fingerprints as I

# Share Your Events Synod Wide

Have you checked out the Synod website lately?

One of the newest features on the website is the *Calendar*. Congregations can use this page to advertise their events, workshops, concerts, special worship services, etc. It's another way to get the word out about your event.

Simply go to the Synod website at www.lutheransnw.org. Click on *Calendar*. Click on *Add An Event*. Once your information is submitted it will be reviewed by the Synod Communication Committee for clarity. Then, it is added to the site.

If you have any questions, email Margit Peiffle, Synod Communication Specialist, at mpeiffle@msn.com.

## Northwest Washington Synod Information

# Change To Bishop's Convo

Due to illness keynote speaker and presenter Dr. Don Juel from Princeton Theological Seminary is not going to be able to attend the 2003 Northwest Washington Bishop's Convocation on Oct. 20-22 at Harrison Hot Springs in British Columbia.

Dr. Juel made several suggestions for alternate speakers. The Bishop's Convocation Committee is pleased to announce that the Rev. Dr. Mark Vitalis Hoffman from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg has accepted our invitation. Rev. Hoffman is the Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, with a concentration in New Testament.

Dr. Hoffman has a Ph.D. from Yale University and has spent nearly 15 years of parish ministry in the ELCA. For more information about Rev. Hoffman please go to www.ltsg.edu/sem/faculty/hoffman.html.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Randy Sinn, Bishop's Convocation Committee Chair, at 360-652-3250.

Registration deadline was Sept. 8. Thanks to everyone who registered. The Convo is full!

# Assembly Dates Set

The 2003 Synod Assembly is scheduled for Friday, May 16, and Saturday, May 17, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood. Pastor Dick Wendt of St. Peter By The Sea in Edmonds and Pastor Mark Saline of Harbour Pointe in Mukilteo are co-chairing the Assembly.

# Hosting The Synod Council

### Is Your Congregation Interested?

Would your congregation like to host the Northwest Washington Synod Council in 2003?

The Synod Council meets every other month on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The 2003 meetings are: January 18, March 15, May 10, September 20 and November 15. (On July 19 the Council meets from 9 a.m. to noon.)

The Synod Council asks that our host share with the Council a little bit about the congregation and lead our opening devotions. The Synod Council also asks that you provide lunch, for which the Council will pay. The meeting and lunch space need to be wheel chair accessible. Including guests, there usually are between 30 and 40 who attend.

To schedule a meeting at your church, or if you would like more information, please contact Sharon Greenwood, Synod Council Vice President, at 206-283-5546 or at gary_greenwood@msn.com.

# Share Your News

### Deadlines For Synod Publications

*November Issue--Monday, Sept. 30*
*December Issue--Monday, Nov. 4*

The deadline for the supplement to The Lutheran magazine is Oct. 14. This supplement will be inserted in the January 2003 issue.

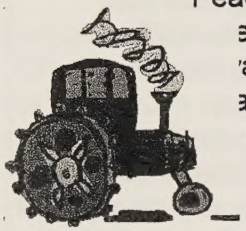
Please send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; email mpeiffle@msn.com; telephone 360-403-9870; or fax 360-435-5955.

# *Neighborly Lutherans*

**by Evie Boynton, Region I Staff**

The Northend Coalition of Lutheran Churches made a big hit at the recent Shoreline City Parade.

The 14 enthusiastic Lutherans from six churches (Bethel of Shoreline, Hope of Seattle, Luther Memorial of Seattle, First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Prince of Peace of Shoreline and St. ephen's of Shoreline) alked in the parade with a 1945 tractor and trailer. On the trailer was a large, proud sign telling everyone along the route who they were.



Participants wore bright red shirts with *Neighborly Lutherans* emblazoned on either the front or back and they handed out crosses, a combined brochure and kazoos.

The parade ended at Ridgecrest Elementary School where the churches took turns sharing a booth handing out cookies, individual brochures, the combined brochure with a map indicating where each church is located, note pads, candy, and plenty of big smiles! Everyone is ready to do it again next year...it was such great fun.

The Northend Coalition of Lutheran Churches has been meeting for more than a year. These churches, big and small, each have made a commitment to support each other in mission and ministry. They have learned much from each other and have gained from sharing their love of Christ with each other.

To learn more about the Coalition contact me at evie.boynton@ecunet.org.

# Sharing Ideas

## At The Global Climate Change Workshop in May

More than 35 people participated in the workshop, with representatives from several Lutheran churches and other denominations including Jewish, Methodist, and Catholic faith communities.

The lively morning panel discussions focused on the realities of global climate change from a scientific and economic perspective, and on how church congregations are responding. Tanya Marcovna Barnett from Earth Ministry, Rev. Leroy Hedman from Georgetown Gospel Chapel and Rev. Paul Benz from the Lutheran Public Policy Office Director, shared their ideas and valuable actions that churches can take to care for God's creation, lower emissions of greenhouse gases, cut costs and increase efficiency.

Danielle Welliever, Director of Environmental Education, ELCA Division for Church and Society, was the keynote speaker at lunch. Her theme concentrated on the simplicity of the problem and the solutions: **Choose Life**

The creativity and laughter shared between participants at lunch continued with an interest group browsing session where participants could rove amongst nine different climate change information and solution tables. Information tables featured: transportation options besides the single occupancy car (bicycling, buses, etc.), Earth Ministry, Climate Solutions, the Audubon Society (backyard

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# A Visit To The Middle East

**by Rev. Carol Jensen, St. John United, Seattle**

My family and I spent the last two weeks of July in Israel, the West Bank, Jordan and Syria, returning to visit friends and colleagues we knew from our stint as Middle East Representatives for the American Friends Service Committee from 1982-85.

It is a difficult time for people on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. For the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, the day-to-day struggles to buy food, work, get medical care, or attend school are enormous. For Israelis, the threat of suicide bombings is omnipresent.

While people we spoke with see no alternative in the long run to a Palestinian state alongside Israel, in the short-run, they were not optimistic about much progress toward a settlement, given the current leadership (Sharon and Arafat) and the present Administration in Washington DC.

Again and again we heard Arabs and Israelis dismay about the talk of a US-led war with Iraq, and their predictions that such a war would exacerbate the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and fuel the power of Islamic fundamentalists in the region.

There are important things we can do as Lutherans in this country: continue to educate ourselves about the conflicts in the region; pray for our Palestinian and Israeli brothers and sisters; express our support for a strong US role, in cooperation with the EEC and the UN, in continuing to pursue the difficult pathway to negotiated peace between Israelis and Palestinians; voice our concerns about what a war with Iraq would accomplish and the dangers it might present. (See David Miller's Editorial in the upcoming issue October 2002 issue of *The Lutheran* at www.thelutheran.org; and the ELCA social statement *For Peace in God's World* that has a useful section on just war at www.elca.org/dcs/studies.)

My husband, Ron Young, Director of the US Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East, is also available for speaking at congregations or consulting on educational programs on the Middle East and the three Abrahamic faiths. He can be reached at 360-652-4285 or usicpme@aol.com.

There is additional information on the Synod website at www.lutheransnw.org.

# Pastor Carol Jensen As Delegate

Pastor Carol Jensen of St. John United in Seattle will be one of the 17 ELCA delegates to attend the Tenth Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

The Assembly will meet July 21-31, 2003, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. More than 430 delegates from the LWF member churches will gather at this Assembly.

To find out more about the Assembly you can visit the Assembly website at www.lwf-assembly.org.

# Byberg Preaching Workshop

The annual Byberg Preaching Workshop will take place January 13 –15, 2003, at the Christian Conference Center in Cannon Beach, OR. Registration forms will be mailed to all rostered clergy and staff by late October.

This year's presenters are: Patricia Sanchez, homiletical author for *Celebration* since 1979; and Rev. Kirby Unti and worship leaders from St. Matthew Lutheran in Renton who will present on *Worship and Technology.*

# Breaking The Barriers

This year's 2002 ELCA Multicultural Mission Institute, *Breaking the Barriers-- Evangelism: Building a Beloved Community*, will be held Nov. 1 to 3 at the Westin Peachtree Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendees will learn specific ways of inviting and keeping new members from cultures other than their own. Attendees will also meet people from congregations that have successfully invited and retained new members. And, much more.

Registration is due by Sept. 30. Registration fee is $85; meals and room are not included. To learn more go to the website at www.elca.org/cmm/mmi or contact Olinda Fink, registrar, at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2029; or email at olinda_find@elca.org.

# Reaching Out To Others

Trinity in Lynnwood is offering congregations two learning opportunities on Saturday, Nov. 9. Attend one or attend both opportunities!

The first opportunity is the second annual *Celebrating Community Connections* sponsored by Lutheran Community Services Northwest from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. This ecumenical event is to celebrate the multicultural ministries of our congregations and learn about multicultural resources.

Hear speakers such as Jerry Shigaki, Ethnic Missioner from the Diocese of Olympia Episcopal Church; Stacy Kitahata, Congregational Ministries Coordinator for Multiculturalism and Evangelism ELCA Region 1; and Luz Maria Cabrera from Tierra Nueva Ministry, a partnership between Presbyterian Church USA and the ELCA.

Continue your outreach planning with the second learning opportunity called Community Asset Mapping from 1 until 3 p.m. Learn tools for addressing the needs and discovering the assets of your community. Find out how your church can be a community asset. This opportunity is facilitated by lay and clergy leaders.

Child care will be available upon request. Funding for this event is made possible through a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans grant to the Northwest Washington Synod - ELCA.

For more information or to register, call 206-694-5700 or email nps@lcsnw.org.

## *re:boot*

*re:boot* is a one-day ministry plunge into postmodern culture and missions facilitated by postmodern leaders and practitioners.

*re:boot* will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct.5, at Holy Trinity on Mercer Island. Cost is $10 (for lunch).

You will learn to face the challenges of and discover opportunities for being church in the new cultural landscape, find resources helpful for "re:booting" your operating system and "de:fragging" your hard drive for missional integrity in the post-Christian landscape.

This event is sponsored by the Northwest Washington Synod , the Diocese of Olympia and the Church of the Apostles (Mission Start). If you have questions, please contact Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop, at jannesse@qwest.net or 206-783-9292; or Rev. Karen Ward, Church of the Apostles, at seattlerev@yahoo.com.

Attendance is limited. Please send your check ($10 for each registrant) payable to the "Diocese of Olympia," noted bottom left "re:boot" workshop. Mail to: Carl Knirk, Diocese of Olympia, 1551 Tenth Ave. East, P.O. Box 12126, Seattle, Wa 98102. A freewill offering will be taken.

To learn more about postmodernism, please visit www.emergingchurch.org.

## Advent and Calling-Caring Ministries Workshops

### At Sammamish Hills

Sammamish Hills in Sammamish is hosting three different workshops that are open to the public. For more information regarding these workshops, contact the Church Office at 425-392-7799 or email at prjohn@shlc.org.

***Preaching the Texts of Advent/ Preparing for Advent in the Home*** will be held on Nov. 16 and 17. Speakers are Pastor Susan Briehl, Mary Emily and Magdalena Wells. Pastor Briehl will speak on Saturday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the topic *Preaching the Texts of Advent*. She will lead participants through the Year B Revised Common Lectionary texts for Advent. A freewill offering will be received. On Sunday from noon until 5 p.m., (beginning with a light lunch) Susan, Mary Emily and Maggie will lead a cross generational workshop on preparing for Advent in the home. The workshop will feature activities for all ages. Registration is $15 per person or $25 per family.

An ***Introduction to Calling-Caring Ministries*** will be held from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6. The facilitator is Pastor John LaMunyon. (A light dinner will be served.)

The ***Calling-Caring Ministries Lab 1*** will be held on Jan. 10 through 12, and Jan. 31 through Feb. 2, 2003. Both weekends are needed for certificate of completion. Cost is $100, meals and materials are included. *A brochure is included in this newsletter for the Calling-Caring Ministries Workshop.*

# New Hunger Appeal Resources Available

The Fall 2002 ELCA World Hunger Resources Packet was mailed free to all ELCA congregations in late August/early September. The packet is the second of two packets of print resources sent annually to congregations from the World Hunger Appeal. The packet contains both new and a continuing supply of World Hunger resources, following the Spring 2002 ELCA World Hunger Resources Packet. The fall packet contains resources to carry congregations' world hunger ministries through the fall, Advent, Epiphany, and into the 2003 calendar year, until the next packet in spring 2003.

Included in the packet:

- ☑ Sample of a new bulletin insert- "Quarters save lives!"
- ☑ Sample of a new bulletin insert- "God's Global Barnyard: Using Animals to Fight Hunger in Africa"
- ☑ Five new real-life, real-people stories of how the World Hunger Appeal is fighting hunger and poverty around the world; in the form of flexible and reproducible bulletin inserts
- ☑ Hunger Guide for Congregations: Ideas and Activities for Your World Hunger Ministry for Fall 2002, which includes lectionary-based ideas for worship and congregational life for four Sundays this fall
- ☑ *Stand With Africa* Guide for Congregations: Ideas and Activities for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany 2002-2003, which includes lectionary-based ideas for worship and congregational life for three Sundays from Advent through Epiphany
- ☑ Advent and Christmas ideas and resources for alternative practices to help world hunger ministries
- ☑ A poster for the *Stand With Africa* campaign

If you need to order another Fall 2002 World Hunger Packet, call Augsburg Fortress at 800/328-4648 and use ISBN 6-0001-6665-6.

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# Sharing Ideas

wildlife sanctuaries), Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star Equipment, Building Green and the ELCA Division for Church and Society (resources for parish education).

The workshop was sponsored by the Task Force on Global Climate Change of the Northwest Washington Synod and the Interfaith Global Climate Change Campaign of the Washington Association of Churches (WAC).

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Everett hosted the workshop and their youth group provided the tasty lunch fixings with style – many thanks to Prince of Peace Lutheran!

# Mentoring The Faith:

**Partners for Nurture 2003**

Mim Campbell, Associate Director of Christian Education, Children and Family Ministry for the ELCA, is keynote speaker for the January 25, 2003 Partners for Nurture event.

Partners For Nurture is a Christian lay-educators training event held on the campus of Trinity Lutheran College in Issaquah. Rev. Lowell Stime, Interim Academic Dean of Trinity, will present his popular *Walk Through the Old Testament* workshop.

Other workshops cover basic teaching skills, personal growth and nurture, and outreach and mission.

For more information please visit www.tlc.edu/general or contact Prof. Sue Houglum at 425-961-5532 or houglum@tlc.edu. Registration packets will be mailed to churches in early fall.

# A Safe Haven ?

Is your congregation a Safe Haven for children, where they are protected from sexual predators? What steps can be taken to ensure that they will be out of harm's way when they are involved with church activities? Can you name some "red flags" that might indicate child molestation? What would you do if a child in your congregation told you she/he was being sexually abused? With whom should you first share your concerns about this child? What are the liabilities for congregations regarding such abuse?

In an effort to assist congregations in this area, the Northwest Washington Synod's Safe Haven Task Force is preparing materials that will help each church to develop policies that will lessen the probability of child sexual abuse. These packets include discussion guides and video clips from numerous resources, and will be made available to Synod churches before the end of the year.

Rev. Eldon Olson is chair of the task force. You can reach him at eldonolson@aol.com.

# *Bearing Witness*

The photography exhibit *Bearing Witness: A Christian's View of Ground Zero* will be shown at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle from Sept. 9 through the end of the month.

The exhibit was created by Kristine Leander, a member of Our Redeemer's in Seattle. The exhibit has previously been on display at Our Redeemer's and University Baptist Church.

This moving photo-essay combines photos of New York City's Ground Zero with quotes from scripture, literature and the media. St. Mark's is delighted to borrow the exhibit for their commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attack.

# Those Lutheran Ladies Do It Again

**(Nov. 2nd and Nov. 3rd)**

Mark your calendars, order your tickets and attend one or both amusing appearances of *The Lutheran Ladies*, Janet Letnes Martin and Susann (Johnson) Nelson. A good time will be had by all as these Norwegian-Lutheran Ladies enlighten and entertain with whimsical wisdom about being Lutheran and growing up in the rural Midwest during the '50s. Without a doubt these ladies will combine their humor and insight to comment on everyday things too.

We invite you to two performances. Tickets will be $10 each ordered in advance and $12 at the door (if there are any seats left).

- **Saturday, Nov. 2 at 7 p.m.; Cross of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church,** 411 156th Avenue NE, Bellevue, 425-746-7300; Contact: SaraKatherine Goldsmith at SaraKatherine@juno.com Book signing and sales will be held afterwards along with refreshments and door prize drawings, to be held of course in the fellowship hall (the church basement).
- **Sunday, Nov. 3 at 1:30 p.m.; First Lutheran Church of Bothell,** 10207 NE 183rd Street, Bothell; 425-486-2314; Contact: Jean Rahr at TheRahrs@msn.com. Lunch will be served at noon. This will be a free will offering, but please let someone know you are coming so there will be enough to go around. Following lunch there will be a Jell-O contest.

# Children Learn About Helping Others

*If Esther's Dreams Could Fly* is a new, 11-minute educational video that helps elementary-age children learn about the needs of poor people and how Lutherans are helping people help themselves.

The concept of sustainable development is shown in kid-friendly terms by featuring Esther, a 12-year-old orphan in Kenya, and her friend Nancy. Nancy's family has received chickens from a Lutheran World Relief partner. Her family sells the eggs from the chickens and uses the income to help Nancy stay in school. The video explains that we can help people like Esther live a better life through our church and its World Hunger Appeal.

To borrow a copy, call the Region 1 Resource Center at 206-624-0093. Or call the World Hunger Appeal office at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2764, to borrow or buy a copy for $5. The video comes with ideas for teachers and group leaders for its use. See a clip of it at www.elca.org/hunger/children/Africa/video.html

The video is part of the *2002-2003 Open a World of Possibility World Hunger* project for children, which focuses on Africa as part of the ELCA's *Stand With Africa* theme. The video *is to be used with The Open a World of Possibility: Stand With Africa* print packet which was mailed free to all congregations in July. To order another copy, call Augsburg Fortress at 1-800-328-4648; ISBN 6-0001-6481-5.

The project also has a website for children at www.elca.org/hunger/children/Africa.

# Are You Interested in Global Climate Change?

The Northwest Washington Synod Task Force on Global Climate Change is currently seeking new members. We are becoming actively involved at the congregation level as well as at the synod level, meeting once per month during the school year to plan events and outreach activities. Please call Carol Pease at University Lutheran at 206-525-7074 to learn more about the task force and about the October meeting date. Look for us at the Third Annual Turkey Trot for World Hunger at Greenlake the day after Thanksgiving!

**Listen to *Lutheran Vespers* with Rev. Walt Wangerin every Sunday at 7:30 a.m., KIRO Newsradio 710 AM.**

Have you thought of supporting this wonderful ministry that reaches between 20,000 and 40,000 people each and every Sunday?

Please consider *Lutheran Vespers.* It is only through local support of individuals and congregations that we are able to keep the program on the air. It costs $1,000 for the 30-minute program. If you would like to help, or if you need more information, please contact Ernie Fosse at 360-652-2909 or email at ErnieFo@microsoft.com.

*Editor's Note: Please keep The Rev. Walt Wangerin Jr., speaker for Lutheran Vespers, in your prayers. He suffered a fractured left hip and abrasions in a bicycle accident on Sept. 9 during the "OutSpoken for Lutheran Vespers" bike tour. For more information go to www.elca.org/lv/OutSpoken.*

# Board of Pension News

## 2003 Contribution Rates

Working on your budget for next year? The Board of Pensions' website has several ways to help you:

- As you prepare budgets for next year, please remember to use 2003 contribution rates available at www.elcabop.org/benefit_plans/cost_coverage/2003_rates
- Calculators are available to you to help you determine contribution amounts, defined compensation, savings and more. You also have the option of calculating with current year rates or 2003 rates. Visit our on-line calculators today at www.elcabop.org/resources_tools/calculators

## Back To School

Concern for your child's health and wellness doesn't end when she or he goes to college or school. View or download a guide to student health coverage eligibility at www.elcabop.org/resources_tools/benefit_guide_pdf (select Health care).

## A Guide For Seminarians

What health benefits do students have while in seminary? How do you enroll in the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program once you graduate? Answers to these and many more questions are available in the Board of Pensions' seminarian guide at www.elcabop.org/resources_tools/seminarian.

# State Advocate's Corner

**by Rev. Paul B. Benz, Director; Lutheran Public Policy Office**

October greetings to you!

There are two things that I would like to share with you this month: *Faithful Citizenship* and the *Community Food Security National Conference.*

***Faithful Citizenship***

I use the term *faithful citizenship* a lot when I visit churches across our state. *Faithful citizenship* is directly tied to Luther's concept that Christians have a dual citizenship. Citizens (members) of the body of Christ and citizens of this world. We are to be faithful in our discipleship as citizens of the Church and faithful as citizens of this country.

So what does this *faithful citizenship* mean (to use a Luther catechetical phrase)?

I encourage individuals and congregations to go beyond the notion that voting and studying the issues and the candidates is sufficient. Individuals and congregations need to do more.

One way that an individual can deepen their citizenship is to attend a candidates forum. A congregation can host a "candidates night" where questions can be asked about the social concerns that the Church has always held up as a priority: poverty, hunger, housing/ homelessness and health care.

*Faithful citizenship* can also involve advocating for legislation that will fund the multitude of programs that assist those individuals/households that are living at the margins of society. Use that 1-800 number (1-800-562-6000) and let the Governor and your three state legislators know how you feel about the importance of preserving human services and raising the revenue to do that even during these difficult economic times that we are in.

***Community Food Security National Conference.***

Another expression of being a *faithful citizen* could be to attend the *Community Food Security Coalition National Conference* from Oct. 4-7 at the Seattle Center in Seattle. You can learn more about this conference and registration information at www.foodsecurity.org.

Conference workshops will focus on the effects of globalization on our food system/consumption and how our faith calls us to build local/regional food systems that support healthier food and local growers. Earth Ministry will host an event called "Eating Locally, Thinking Globally" beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, at Denny Park Lutheran Church in Seattle.

If you would like to explore the idea of your congregation being a part of the local effort to increase our local/regional food security let me know. Congregations or individuals can be a Community Supportive Agriculture sponsor by connecting with local/regional growers to buy a certain amount of their produce. If you're interested in doing this let me know.

God's blessing to you in the beautiful season of Fall.

You can reach me at 206-694-5772 or by email at pbenz@lcsnw.org.

# Director of Consultation to Clergy

Region 1 is seeking a Director of Consultation to Clergy. The successful candidate administers a pastoral care service of the judicatory offices of the Region 1 ELCA synods and LCMS District of the Pacific Northwest (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington) by assisting rostered persons and their families; by offering support systems for persons having special needs; by offering referral systems for professional therapy; and by offering consultation and resources for growth in a changing environment of ministry. For more information contact Toni Corkran at 206-623-9813, ext. 2.

# Part-time Musician

Bethlehem in Seattle is seeking a part-time musician to begin in October. Sunday is one service with accompaniment for the choir. This includes a rehearsal one evening a week. Contact Pastor Joel Ingebritson at 206-722-5651.

# Office Space Available

Lutheran Campus Ministry/Covenant House at the University of Washington has three offices available for local non-profits. Are you looking for office space or know someone who is? This is a great space for an administrative office. If interested, please contact Rev. Scott Postlewait, 4525 19th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98105; telephone at 206-524-7900; or email at chscott@drizzle.com.

# Let Justice Roll

## Holden Village

October 12-14, 2002

If you are interested in peace and justice issues in our world, you are invited to a weekend where you will be challenged to greater depths of thought and discipleship as we study and learn about what our *"Daily Bread" is.*

Speakers:
**Dr. Patricia J. Larsen** presently serves the Oregon Synod as Director of Planned Giving.

**Tom Witt** presently serves as worship coordinator for the ecumenical community of St. Martin in Minneapolis. Tom is also the co-founder of the musical ensemble *Bread for the Journey"*

Registration and information contact: Krista Sickert-Bush at 253-863-5171 or email at ksickert-sh@mtviewlutheran.org

Complete registration information is available at www.elcaregion1.org/youth or check your new Justabouteverythingpages.

***The Just About Everything Pages* Are in the mail. You can also get a copy at the Region's website at www..elcaregion1.org/youth**

# News and Notes

- **All-Lutheran Candlelighting For Mental Illness**--On one Sunday in October, the Lutheran Network on Mental Illness/Brain Disorders (LNMI/BD) is asking all Lutheran congregations to light a candle and to say a prayer for persons with mental illness and for their families.If you would like to become a congregational contact, call Pastor Lisa Cleaver at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2692.
- Not a television special, but a **one hour live Webcast with Bishop Hanson** will take place on Sunday, Oct. 6, beginning at 4 p.m. eastern time. The theme of this webcast is *Faithful Yet Changing: Planning for Mission.* Bishop Hanson will address topics which have been submitted in advance through the ELCA planning website, www.elca.org/planning. Visit that website to learn more about the webcast and the ELCA planning process.
- **Luther Seminary** now offers daily devotions delivered right to your email box. God Pause devotions are short, meaningful reflections on the following Sunday's lessons and gospel. Devotion writers are all Luther Seminary alumni/ae. To subscribe go to www.luthersem.edu/godpause.
- **Peninsula Lutheran Church** in Gig Harbor will present it's 35th Annual Lutefisk Dinner on Friday, October 18, and Saturday, October 19, between the 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Swedish Meatballs, boiled potatoes, parsley carrots, relish tray, lefse, flat bread, homemade brown bread, Scandinavian cookies and ice cream complete the menu. Advance tickets will be available prior to the dinner by calling 851-3511. Donation of $15 for adults and $6 for ages 6-13, 5 and under are free.
- **The Compass Center of Seattle** will begin construction on a new Center for Homeless Veterans in Shoreline this year. This project will create 25 additional new VA transitional housing units that are linked to vocational training and other needed social services for residents. A fundraising event for the new Center will be held from 7:45 to 9 a.m. on Nov. 11 at Benaroya Hall, Seattle. To purchase your seat at this breakfast event, please call 206-461-7835, ext. 10.
- As we continue to hear and read in the media about the trouble in the Middle East and Jerusalem, please join in the **ecumenical prayer vigil** for the Christian communities in Jerusalem, for all those who are suffering in the Holy Land, for Palestinians and Israelis, and for peace in the Middle East and the world. The vigil is organized by state. **People in the Northwest Washington Synod are invited to focus on the Middle East in their daily prayers on the 18th of each month.** For more information about the prayer vigil or about Jerusalem and the Middle East, go to www.loga.org.

# Within Our Family

***Within Our Family*** *depends upon you--not only for prayers, but also your prayer requests. Please contact the Synod office with any additions to this column.*

*To Keep in Our Prayers....*

† **The Rev. Jim Schoeld (ret.) and his wife Rachel** who were in a serious one-car accident last summer. Continued prayers for their recovery.

† **The Rev. Doug Langholz** (Magnolia, Seattle) who continues to suffer the debilitating effects of ALS and is on disability. He and his wife, Mary, will continue to worship at Magnolia. You can contact Pastor Doug and Mary Langholz at: 2802 - 29th Ave. W, Seattle, WA 98199-2710; telephone 206-285-6214. The Rev. Mark Reiff will continue to serve the congregation of Magnolia.

† **The Rev. Robert Moylan (ret.)** as he deals with progressive muscular dystrophy.

† **The Rev. Luther Gabrielsen** (ret.) during his cancer treatments.

† **The Rev. Emerson Vedell,** visitation pastor for St. John United in Seattle, as he continues to heal.

# Three Brothers, One Endowed Scholarship

Three brothers concerned about the ever-increasing costs of seminary education, decided to create an endowed scholarship at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

These brothers are the Pastors Frank, James and Henry Ericksen. They were born of Norwegian parents in Chicago and graduated from Luther Seminary in 1934, 1949 and 1945, respectively. All three had their seminary education paid for by the national church.

Today, the ELCA's contributions pay for about 18 percent of a seminarian's education. By graduation the average amount of debt per student is nearly $40,000. This leaves many new pastors with the burden of repaying loans out of salaries that are insufficient to cover this need.

In establishing this endowment fund, the Ericksens are helping to fund the education of many future candidates for ministry.

You may know Pastor Frank Ericksen. He served in parishes in Marysville, Bow, Longview and in Tacoma.

You may know Pastor James (Jim) Ericksen. He served in many parishes including five in Washington: Burlington, Seattle, Tacoma, Kent and Bothell.

You may know Pastor Henry (Hank) Ericksen. He served in many parishes including one in Washington: Bothell.

These three brothers hope family members and friends will be encouraged to contribute to support seminarians.

For more information, please contact Gerry Rafftery, major gifts consultant, at Luther Seminary: toll free at 1-888-358-8437 or email at graffter@luthersem.edu.

# The ELCA Braille and Tape Ministry

If you had trouble reading and you wanted to continue to participate in your congregation's service, what would you do?

More than 2,000 people use the ELCA Braille and Tape Ministry to receive the support they need. Do you or do you know someone who can benefit from this ministry? Call 1-800-426-0115, ext. 502, to receive the resources you need.

Callers are provided with information on braille and audio resources that a person who is blind or visually impaired can use to participate in his or her ELCA congregation. Hymnals, adult group studies, confirmation materials and Sunday School curriculum are just some of the resources available upon request.

Callers are able to subscribe to audiotapes of some of the most popular resources from the ELCA and Augsburg Fortress, including *Christ In Our Home, Lutheran Woman Today* and *The Lutheran.*

If you would like to support this ministry with a gift, please contact the Division for Church in Society, Attn ELCA Braille and Tape Ministry, 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4104; or telephone at 1-800-638-3522 or (TTY) 1-800-442-3522.

For more information, you can go on-line at www.elca.org/dcs/Braille&Tape.html.

**Soundings**

News and information for pastors, associates in ministry, lay leaders and ecumenical friends of the

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(Permission to copy information in Soundings for use in congregations is granted.)

The deadline for the November 2002 issue of Soundings and The Spirit is Monday, Sept. 30. 3. Send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; fax: 360-435-5955; email: mpeiffle@msn.com; or telephone 360-403-9870.